

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 COLOMB 03367 051109Z

13

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00

PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15 SCSE-00 SCA-01 SS-15 NSC-05 /092 W

----- 088789

R 051021Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1937

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

UNCLAS COLOMBO 3367

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: CGEN, ETRN

SUBJ: CRASH OF CHARTERED FLIGHT IN SRI LANKA DECEMBER 4, 1974

BRUSSELS PASS TO FAA DEPUTY ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR ALBERT L.  
GAMMON

1. A DC-8 MARTIN AIRWAYS CHARTERED FLIGHT ENROUTE FROM SURABYA, INDONESIA, TO JIDDA, SAUDI ARABIA, CRASHED AT APPROXIMATELY 2245 P.M. DURING ITS APPROACH FOR A LANDING AT BANDARANAIKE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AT KATUNAYAKE. THE AIRCRAFT IS REPORTED TO HAVE STRUCK A MOUNTAIN DURING A HEAVY RAINSTORM IN THE VICINITY OF MASKELIYA, A TOWN 49 MILES (92BY ROAD) EAST OF COLOMBO IN A RUGGED MOUNTAINOUS REGION. WEATHER CONDITIONS PREVENTED HELICOPTERS FROM MAKING FLIGHTS INTO THE AREA IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CRASH, AND ALL 191 PERSONS ON BOARD ARE REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN KILLED.

2. ACCORDING TO COLOMBO'S KLM MANAGER, THE AGENT FOR THE CHARTERED FLIGHT (FLIGHT NUMBER UNAVAILABLE), ALL OF THE PASSENGERS WERE INDONESIAN PILGRIMS ENROUTE TO MECCA AND THE CREW WAS DUTCH. ALTHOUGH NOT HAVING THE OFFICIAL PASSENGER LIST, THE AGENT SAYS SHE IS CERTAIN NO AMERICAN  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 COLOMB 03367 051109Z

CITIZENS WERE ON BOARD.

BYRNE

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REPORTS, AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS, INVESTIGATIONS, CASUALTIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 DEC 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974COLOMB03367  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740353-0053  
**From:** COLOMBO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19741259/aaaabydc.tel  
**Line Count:** 62  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** izenbei0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 03 OCT 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <03 OCT 2002 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <13 FEB 2003 by izenbei0>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CRASH OF CHARTERED FLIGHT IN SRI LANKA DECEMBER 4, 1974 BRUSSELS PASS TO FAA DEPUTY ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR ALBERT L.  
**TAGS:** CGEN, ETRN, CE  
**To:** STATE BRUSSELS  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005